

ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DEVICES WITHIN A MOBILE

AD HOC NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A mobile ad hoc network may be established between a  
plurality of devices that have common contacts on their  
contact lists. The contact lists may be conventional  
contacts stored in a list of contacts on a scheduling and  
information management or other software packages in one  
embodiment. Information about common contacts between a  
10 plurality of devices may be progressively shared, using a  
bucket brigade technique of sharing information between  
in-range devices. Status information about the devices in  
the network may be similarly shared in a bucket brigade  
fashion. Thus, the network is dynamic in the sense that at  
15 any given time, it may be determined whether any given  
device in the network is active. Moreover, the links are  
established between a manageable number of devices defined  
by having common contacts with one another.